

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend claims to be as follows.

1. (currently amended) A method of assigning service priorities to traffic from a plurality of sources using meters, the method comprising:
 - receiving a packet that is placed into a specific class of service (COS) group pertaining to a specific service being tracked and controlled;
 - determining a fabric-adjusted meter modifier depending on a payload size of the packet and on technology of a limiting uplink being used; and
 - adding the fabric-adjusted meter modifier to a meter corresponding to the specific COS group, wherein the meter comprises a counter that tracks traffic associated with said service over a period of time, and wherein said adding updates the meter.
2. (canceled)
3. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - determining if the meter exceeds a black-type limit for the specific COS group; and
 - if the black-type limit is exceeded, then dropping the packet.
4. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - determining if the meter exceeds a red-type limit for the specific COS group; and
 - if the red-type limit is exceeded, then lowering a priority level of the packet.
5. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

determining if the COS meter exceeds a limit for the specific COS group
 and
 if the limit is exceeded then perform an action specified for the limit.

6. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein determining the fabric-adjusted meter modifier comprises retrieving a modifier value associated with the payload size from a technology-specific look-up table.
7. (canceled)
8. (canceled)
9. (currently amended) An apparatus for forwarding traffic from a plurality of sources, the apparatus comprising:
 - a port for receiving a packet that is placed into a specific COS group pertaining to a specific service being tracked and controlled;
 - calculation circuitry configured to determine a fabric-adjusted meter modifier depending on a payload size of the packet and on a technology of an uplink being used;
 - update circuitry configured to add the fabric-adjusted meter modifier to a meter corresponding to the specific COS group, wherein said meter comprises a counter that tracks traffic associated with said service over a period of time.
10. (original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the fabric-adjusted meter modifier is also dependent on a payload size of the packet.

11. (original) The apparatus of claim 9, further comprising:
comparison circuitry configured to determine if the meter exceeds a black-type limit for the specific COS group; and
non-forwarding circuitry for dropping the packet if the black-type limit is exceeded.
12. (original) The apparatus of claim 9, further comprising:
comparison circuitry configured to determine if the meter exceeds a red-type limit for the specific COS group; and
prioritization circuitry for lowering a priority level of the packet if the red-type limit is exceeded.
13. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the calculation circuitry comprises a technology-specific look-up table.
14. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the calculation circuitry comprises a plurality of comparators and an adder to sum outputs of the comparators.
15. (currently amended) A system for routing traffic from a plurality of sources using class of service (COS) meters, the system comprising:
means for receiving a packet that is placed into a specific COS group pertaining to a specific service being tracked and controlled;
means for determining a fabric-adjusted meter modifier depending on a payload size of the packet and on a technology of an uplink being used;

means for adding the fabric-adjusted meter modifier to a COS meter corresponding to the specific COS group, wherein said meter comprises a counter that tracks traffic associated with said service over a period of time, and wherein said adding updates said meter.

16. (currently amended) A method of implementing class of service (COS) functionality in a telecommunications system, the method comprising:
 defining a user-configurable function by way of a user interface; and
 assigning the user-configurable function to be a meter modifier function associated with a class of service group in the system, wherein the meter modifier function depends on a payload size of a packet and is used to adjust for a fabric uplink technology,
adding the meter modifier function to a group meter, wherein said adding updates the group meter.

17. (canceled)

18. (original) The method of claim 16, wherein the user-configurable function depends on a current value of the meter.

19. (original) The method of claim 16, wherein the user-configurable function depends on a last destination of a packet forwarded by the system.

20. (canceled)

21. (currently amended) A method of implementing class of service (COS) functionality in a telecommunications system, the method comprising:

defining multiple user-configurable meter modifier functions by way of a user interface, said meter modifier functions to be added to meters to update said meters; and

assigning each service class of a set of service classes to one of the user-configurable meter modifier functions, wherein the meter modifier functions are dependent upon packet payload size and which type of fabric-uplink technology is used.

22. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the fabric-adjusted meter modifier is different for hardware-based and software-based routing.

23. (previously presented) The method of claim 22, wherein the fabric-adjusted meter modifier is different for tagged and untagged hardware-based routing.

24. (previously presented) The method of claim 22, wherein the fabric-adjusted meter modifier is different for hardware-based routing to an Ethernet link and hardware-based routing to a Synchronous Optical NETWORK (SONET) link.

25. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the fabric-adjusted meter modifier is also dependent on a payload size of the packet.

26. (previously presented) The method of claim 25, wherein determining the fabric-adjusted meter modifier comprises summing outputs from a plurality of comparators with the payload size if specified by a user-configurable flag.